

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ACDA-12 ISO-00 HA-05 SSO-00 INRE-00
NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5357
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USNATO
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
SECDEF WASHDC
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 1453

FOR EUR/RPM, EUR/SOV AND ACDA FROM USDEL CSCE
GENEVA FOR USDEL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE, OCON
SUBJ: CSCE BELGRADE -- NEUTRON BOMB

REFS: (A) BELGRADE 887; (B) STATE 036634

1. IN NATO CBMS CAUCUS FEBRUARY 21, FRG REP ASKED
WHETHER OTHER ALLIES WOULD RESPOND IF WARSAW PACT
SPEAKERS MADE FRESH ATTACK ON NEUTRON BOMB. HE SAID
HIS AUTHORITIES FELT RENEWED PROVOCATION SHOULD NOT
GO UNANSWERED. FRG DEL WOULD BE PREPARED TO RESPOND,
BUT WOULD NOT WANT TO BE ALONE.

2. UK REP NOTED THAT HIS DELEGATION HAD JOINTED US IN
CRITICISM OF GDR PROPOSAL ON NEUTRON BOMB WHEN IT WAS
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INTRODUCED IN DRAFTING GROUP (REF A), AND THAT IN A
PLENARY SESSION THE FOLLOWING WEEK HIS AMBASSADOR
HAD DISMISSED EASTERN SALLIES ON NEUTRON BOMB AS
PROPAGANDISTIC. HE FORESAW LITTLE CHANCE THAT EAST
WOULD RAISE ISSUE AGAIN IN A SERIOUS WAY BEFORE THE
CLOSING SPEECHES IN OPEN PLENARY AND FELT LONDON
PROBABLY WOULD NOT WANT TO MAKE ANY REFERENCE TO

NEUTRON BOMB IN ITS OWN CLOSING STATEMENT.

3. OTHER ALLIED REPS HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS ON THE SUBJECT.

4. US REP SAID HIS AUTHORITIES DID NOT WANT THE NEUTRON BOMB TO BECOME AN ISSUE AT BELGRADE (REF B). HE SAID USDEL HAD RESPONDED TO PERIODIC EASTERN ACCUSATIONS WITH A COUPLE OF BRIEF REBUTTALS IN PLENARY AND A LONGER STATEMENT IN DRAFTING GROUP. IT FELT IT HAD DEALT ADEQUATELY WITH THE ISSUE AND DID NOT INTEND TO RAISE IT AGAIN. US REP SAID HE SAW NO NEED FOR FURTHER RESPONSE UNLESS SOVIETS AND THEIR ALLIES WENT BEYOND PASSING REFERENCES TO NEW EXTENDED, PROVOCATIVE STATEMENTS. IF THIS OCCURRED IN CLOSING PLENARY SPEECHES, HOWEVER, US, BEING SECOND ON SPEAKERS LIST AND PRECEDING USSR AND GDR, THE TWO MOST LIKELY TO RAISE THE ISSUE, WOULD HAVE NO OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND.

5. IN PRIVATE DISCUSSION AFTER CAUCUS, FRG SAID IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO KNOW WHETHER WASHINGTON WOULD WISH FRG TO RESPOND IT GDR MADE A PROVOCATIVE STATEMENT ABOUT THE NEUTRON BOMB IN CLOSING SPEECH (FRG SPEAKS AFTER GDR BUT BEFORE USSR). IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION, UK REP SAID HE DOUBTED EAST WOULD MAKE CONFIDENTIAL

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MUCH OF NEUTRON BOMB IN CLOSING STATEMENTS EXCEPT IN RESPONSE TO GLOVES OFF US CLOSING STATEMENT ON HUMAN RIGHTS. LONDON MIGHT THEN CONSIDER INCLUSION OF A BRIEF REJOINDER IN BRITISH STATEMENT, BUT FOREWARNING WOULD BE NEEDED FOR DELEGATION TO GET AUTHORIZATION.

6. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANSWER TO FRG QUESTION PARA 5 ABOVE. MORE BROADLY, SHOULD WE SUGGEST ANY COURSE OF ACTION TO OTHER ALLIED DELS (I.E., EITHER ENCOURAGE OR DISCOURAGE A RESPONSE) SHOULD SOVIETS OR OTHER EASTERN DELS MAKE A MAJOR ISSUE OF NEUTRON BOMB IN CLOSING STATEMENTS.
GOLDBERG

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